Pollution in rivers

†4043. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of expenditure incurred on the cleaning and preventing water pollution of big rivers like the Ganga and Yamuna during the last five years;

(b) whether Government are formulating any permanent plan for cleaning and keeping river pollution free; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) The Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) adiminstered by the Ministry of Environment & Forests presently cover 160 towns located along polluted stretches of 34 rivers spread over 20 States at an approved cost of Rs. 4735.42 crores. During the last five financial years, an expenditure of Rs. 1332.31 crores is reported to have been incurred on implementation of the pollution abatement works in these rivers taken up under NRCP, out of which, the expenditure incurred for the rivers Ganga excluding its tributaries and Yamuna amount to Rs. 196.35 crores and Rs. 160.07 crores respectively.

(b) and (c) The First River Action Plan, namely, the Ganga Action Plan was taken up by the Union Ministry of Environment & Forests in the year 1985. However, with the progress of time and the need for taking up works in more rivers, its scope has increased to cover other major rivers of the country in stages from 1993 onwards. All these works are undertaken under NRCP, which is an ongoing and continuous activity, under which, various schemes of pollution abatement of river are implemented based upon the current estimates of the pollution load of the respective rivers.

Proposals of Madhya Pradesh

†4044. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have received proposals from

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

the Government of Madhya Pradesh with regard to making the State green, improving the damaged forests, facilities to be provided at the rehabilitation site for the displaced from the Cruno Palpur Sanctuary, Sheopur and eradication of poverty through non conventional energy sources in the vangrams;

(b) if so, the number of proposals sanctioned/granted permission out of said proposals as well as the number of proposals pending alongwith the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for pendency of these proposals; and

(d) by when sanction/permission would be granted to the pending proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Environment and Forests is implementing National Afforestation Programme (NAP) Scheme through two-tie decentralized mechanism of Forest Development Agency (FDA) at Forest Division level and Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs) at the village level for regeneration of degraded forests and adjoining lands., All 51 FDA propject proposals received from Madhya Pradesh upto 31.03.2007 were approved by the Ministry under the scheme at a total proejct cost of Rs. 113.67 crores.

Financial assistance has also been provided to the Government of Madhya Pradesh for the development and conservation of Kuno-Palpur Sanctuary under Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) - Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries. An amount of Rs. 97.19 lakhs was released to Kuno-Palpur Sanctuary during last three years. (2004-05 to 2006-07). In addition to this, funds to the tune of Rs. 1436.32 lakhs were released to Government of Madhya Pradesh for rehabilitation of 1545 familities from Kuno-Palpur Sanctuary.

The Ministry of Tribal Affairs has started a programme in 2005-06 for the development of forest villages under the Special Central Assistance to the Tribal Sub-Plan Scheme. The funds are provided to the State Government for providing infrastructure and improving livelihoods in forest villages which includes development of non-conventional eneregy sources also. In case of Madhya Pradesh, Ministry of Tribal Affairs has released a sum of Rs. 166.63 crores for the development of 867 froest villages during 2005-06 to 2006-07.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.